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# Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

In re

Amendment of Section 73.202 (b)
Table of Allotments
FM Broadcast Stations
(San Angelo, TX)

To: The Commission

RM Docket

AUG 2 1 1995

FOO MALL ROOM

# PETITION FOR RULEMAKING

Regency Broadcasting, Inc. ("petitioner"), by its counsel, pursuant to Section 1.401 of the Rules and Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission, respectfully requests the Commission to institute a rulemaking proceeding to amend the Table of Allotments to add Channel 289C3 at San Angelo, TX as follows:

#### Channel No.

San Angelo, TX 225C1, 230C1, 234C1, 225C1, 230C1, 234 248C1, 254C, 261A, 248C1, 254C, 261A 270C1, 298C1 270C1, 289C3, 298	Α,

#### Proposal of the Petitioner

1. San Angelo is located in what is known as the Concho Valley of west central Texas between the Texas Hill Country to the southeast and the Rolling Plains to the northwest. To the south, the terrain becomes rugged as it reaches the edge of the Chihuahuan Desert. Within the Concho Valley, the city itself is located between fertile farmland on the east and primarily fenced rangeland to the west.

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- 2. Attached hereto is an Engineering Statement which demonstrates that the proposed inclusion of Channel 289C3 at San Angelo will not pose any conflicts with adjacent channels.
- 3. The petitioner is a duly organized corporation comprised solely of United States citizens. If the requested petition is acted upon favorably, and the channel assigned to San Angelo, TX, petitioner will apply for the authorization to construct and operate an FM station in San Angelo.

# Description of the Community

4. San Angelo is a community with a 1995 population of 87,884 (Source: State Comptroller of Public Accounts). It is located in Tom Green County which has a population of 102,429. The population is 69% Anglo, 26% Hispanic, 4% Black, and 1% other. Attached hereto as Exhibit 1 is a compilation of demographic data respecting the community. This data illustrates the need for this new allotment to San Angelo, TX.

WHEREFORE THE PREMISES CONSIDERED, it is respectfully requested that the Commission initiate a rulemaking proceeding as proposed hereinabove.

Respectfully submitted,

Law Offices
JAMES L. OYSTER
108 Oyster Lane
Castleton, VA 22716-9720
(540) 937-4800

August 17, 1995

REGENCY BROADCASTING, INC.

James L. Oyster

Counsel

By

# Audible Engineering 52 Summit \* Canyon, Texas 79015 \* (806) 655-1727

William F. Canton Secretary Federal Communication Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Mr. William F. Canton,

It is our understanding, that the inclusion of Channel 289, Freq. 105.7MHz into the San Angelo (Texas) area will not pose any conflicts with adjacent channels, as mandated in Section 73.207: "minimum distance separation between station", of the Code of Federal Regulations. As evidence to this, enclosed is a survey which demonstrates those requirements and adhere to other sections mension in Section 73.207.

THICELETA

Leonard S. Martinez

Consultant #PG-10-15163

08-02-1995 PAGE 1

Location: SAN ANGELO, TX Call City, State	FCC Database Date: 7/95 31-26-08 Channel Class: C3 100-34-08 Chan Class Freq kW Latitude Dist. Required File Number HAAT Longitude Azm. Clear (km)				
>>>>> Study For Channel 289 105.7 mHz <<<<<					
ALLOC STANTON, TX VAC Reserved for One-Step Applic	290 C2 105.9 31-49-45 124.8 117 - 0 101-48-05 290.8 +7.8 CLOSE cation 950425MB				
APP JOHN H. WIGGINS First Come First Serve-One-	290 C2 105.9 37. 31-51-19 125.0 117 73.215 -950425MB 122 101-47-32 292.2 +8.0 CLOSE Step Application llowed under the international agreement				
KSTVFM STEPHENVILLE, TX LIC CEN-TEX MEDIA, INC. *To channel 289C1 Decatur,	289 C1 105.7 100. 32-11-11 231.2 211 BLH-861230KG 150 98-17-26 68.3 +20.2 CLEAR TX Per D90-101				

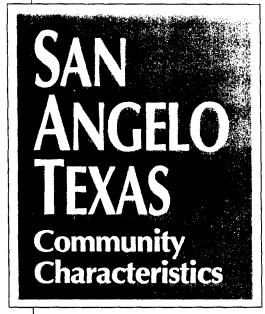
KBYGFM COAHOMA, TX
CP DREW BALLARD

288 A 105.5 6.0 32-17-15 118.9 89

BPH-920701MC 100 101-19-52 322.8 +29.9 CLEAR

#### HISTORY

With the end of America's civil war, thousands of settlers began moving west in search of their fortunes. Realizing its need to protect these citizens from roving bands of Indians, the government established several forts on the frontier.



One such placement, Fort Concho, was made in 1867 at the confluence of three rivers in west central Texas. The fort at different times was home to mounted cavalry, infantry and the famous Black infantry whose members were respectfully called "buffalo soldiers" by the Indians. Almost as soon as the first units arrived at Fort Concho, a small and somewhat lawless village by the name of Santa Angela came to life just across the river. As the village grew into a community, it became a trade center for the many farmers and ranchers who had settled in the area.

By 1889 the Indians had moved westward and the soldiers followed, abandoning Fort Concho. However, with an economic base of agriculture and trade, the community later to be known as San Angelo continued to grow as it moved into the 20th century.

Weather and climate in the Concho Valley had a great influence on the community's early reputation as a medical center. When tuberculosis became

widespread in the first half of this century, patients from all over the nation were sent to a treatment center near San Angelo. The dry air proved to be a necessary healing factor, and the center remained active until vaccinations almost eliminated the TB risk in this country. Today, this facility remains in operation as a part of the state's adult mental health/mental retardation system.

The military influence returned to San Angelo at the beginning of World War II when the Army Air Corps established a primary training base east of the community. Later, Goodfellow Field was renamed Goodfellow Air Force Base when that branch took over military flight. Today, with approximately 3,800 military and

civilian employees,
Goodfellow serves as an
intelligence training center
for the Air Force, as well as
a fire and rescue training
center for Army, Marines
and Air Force military
branches.

Before and after the war the city's economic

Fort Concho

National Historic Landmark



base continued expanding. The discovery of oil and gas, the influx of light manufacturing, the initial development of a communications center and the growth of the medical community provided great diversification. Education, too, became a major player as San Angelo College (now Angelo State University) attracted students from across the state and nation.

A large, hard working labor force attracted the meat processing, medical products, and apparel industries. Tire testing and development added to the diversification.

Today, this city of 88,000 is the hub of a 13-county area of Texas with a widely diversified economy supported by agriculture, petroleum, medical, communications, education, federal, military, retail, retirement and

tourism.

dry, healthy climate in a location free of corrosive elements and high humidity. Rainfall is evenly scattered with an average rainfall of nearly 1.5 inches a month. The annual growing season is 235 days between killing frosts with virtually no downtime on business production activities.

Feet above sea level: 1,903
Average annual rainfall: 20.45"
Average annual temperature: 64.9°F
Winter average temperature: 88.6°F
Location: 31° 30'N - 100° 26'W
Average annual humidity:

79% mornings 44% afternoons



# **TOPOGRAPHY**

San Angelo is located Amarillo in what is known as the Concho Valley of west Lubbock central Texas between the Texas Hill El Paso San Angelo Country to the southeast and the San Antonio Rolling Plains to the northwest. To the south, the terrain becomes rugged as it reaches the edge of the Chihuahuan Desert. Within the Concho Valley, the city itself is located between fertile farmland on the east and primarily fenced rangeland to the west.



Because of readily available land, San Angelo was never required to build tall buildings. Most of the larger buildings are located downtown close to the historic area of Concho Avenue. While some streets follow an east/west, north/south direction, many curved streets follow the tree-lined rivers through downtown. Government, medical and mostly professional offices are located near the center of the city while outlying suburbs provide a variety of shopping centers and retail businesses.

Although the city is spread out, motorists can travel from one side to the other within 20 minutes or less via the Houston Harte Expressway, Bryant Boulevard or Loop 306.

# **DEMOGRAPHICS**

Total population of Tom Green
County (1995) is 102,429, which
indicates a population
density of 67 persons
per square mile.
San Angelo's 1995
population is 87,884.

The population breakdown by race is:

Anglo ..... 69% Hispanic...26% Black .......4% Other .......1% Source: State Comotroller of Public Accounts

# THE PEOPLE

Reflecting on their heritage, San Angelo people are known far and wide for their friendliness and fierce independence. If there is a job to be done, the community comes together to do it whether it is for a friend, a stranger or simply a common cause.

This community character can be noted daily in citizen support in volunteerism and funding for organizations such as West Texas Rehabilitation Center, West Texas Boys Ranch and the Priority 1 economic development plan.

Civic, social and support organizations abound in the city, and the



interaction of these groups brings the diverse talents of their members together to support a worthy cause or promote a special event for public education and enjoyment.

Education and support of the schools are high priorities for San

Angelo's residents, and they prove this through their constant support of public, private and parochial systems.

Community volunteers and businesses avidly back Volunteers in Public Schools, Adopt-A-School, Parent-Teachers
Associations, San Angelo Schools
Foundation, Project Graduation, Texas Scholars Program and other special projects. The same support can be found for the civic clubs, churches and charitable organizations.



San Angeloans support their whole city as well. A group of architects and planners descended on the city in 1992 as a Regional Urban Development Assistance Team. For three days, at no cost to the city, they studied the core of the community and how it could be best restored and utilized. One of their



first recommendations was construction of a wide, pedestrian bridge to link downtown with the RiverStage area. The winding Celebration Bridge was completed before July 4, 1993 with thousands of private donations as small as \$10 providing half the cost. This was only the first project in the RUDAT plan which includes incorporation of El Paseo de Santa Angela and Fort Concho into a downtown greenbelt area and the restoration of the Cactus Hotel.

You will find this same vitality in other activities such as Christmas in April where more than 1,500 residents spend one or two weekends repairing, refurbishing and upgrading homes of the poor and elderly with materials donated by local merchants.

More than a hundred years ago, mild temperatures, wide open spaces, abundant water and treelined rivers marked the Concho Valley as a good place to live and lured settlers from far and wide. Today, all of those factors and many more provide the area with a national reputation for its quality of life.

SAN ANGELO TEXAS Quality of Life

In a 1993 survey of the nation's 300 largest cities, San Angelo was ranked as the 38th best place to live in America by *Money Magazine*. The survey was based on health, crime, the economy, education, housing, transportation, weather, leisure activities and the arts. This recognition of the city was the second by the publication since it had first recognized the city a decade ago as "the best kept secret in Texas".

Part of that secret lies in the spirit of the residents of San Angelo. Armed with the same resourcefulness and "can do" attitudes displayed by the area's first pioneers, today's residents extend helping hands to neighbors and strangers alike. They always find time to support community, church and school activities, and exceed United Way goals.

Established within the community to meet the spiritual needs of residents are more than 147 churches, representing many denominations and faiths. Several of these institutions also offer education to students of lower grades.

San Angelo is located between the Texas Hill Country to the southeast and the high plains to the northwest. The city is considered an oasis in this part of Texas. Its low humidity, mild temperatures, clean air and several lakes provide an excellent



environment for outdoor living and recreation. Within the city there are more than 300 acres of public parks which are complemented by walking and jogging paths, botanical gardens, sports fields, tennis courts, a golf course, pedestrian bridges, the RiverStage and even an international water lily display. The surrounding area is a sportsman's paradise with whitetail deer, wild turkey, javelina and a variety of game birds.

Three lakes - Twin Buttes, Lake Nasworthy and San Angelo State Park's O.C. Fisher Reservoir - are located around the city and provide year-round fishing, boating, skiing and camping activities. Two other



lakes, Spence and O.H. Ivie, are within 40 miles of San Angelo.

The city enjoys many celebrations and entertainment events. In the spring, it is the annual San Angelo Stock Show and Rodeo. In the summer, Fiesta del Concho draws crowds to Fort Concho and the downtown river area for a full week of festivities, entertainment and good food. In September, Fiestas Patrias celebrates Mexico's freedom from Spain.



During the first weekend of December, the fort is decorated and visitors enjoy food, entertainment and arts and crafts shopping at Christmas at Old Fort Concho. Other events occur frequently at the convention center, the coliseum, city auditorium, ASU and the Museum of Fine Arts. San Angelo is home to the longest continually operating civic theatre in Texas. San Angelo's county library system, the Angelo State University library, and the library at Goodfellow AFB offer more than 1,170,000 volumes, paintings, films, videos, recordings and periodicals. Visitors to these various activities and events within the city may choose lodging from 1,700 hotel/motel rooms of all levels of accommodation.

San Angelo has a statewide reputation for its fine steak houses, authentic Mexican food and a variety of ethnic cuisine.

(continued)



Even though the city spreads out over some 50 square miles, traffic moves easily on wide thoroughfares. Persons not able or wanting to drive may use the city bus system to reach all areas of the city. Most buses are equipped to serve handicapped persons. Also available are private taxi and limousine services, as well as specialized providers of transportation for the elderly and infirm.

Part of the city's quality of life is due to excellent education facilities and kindergarten through post-graduate programs within public, private and parochial systems.

Twenty-seven public facilities offer pre-school and higher learning while six private and/or parochial schools are certified up to ninth grade level. San Angelo public schools consist of 21 elementary schools, four junior high schools and two high schools. The system also operates four special education schools for blind and deaf students, as well as those with special needs. Students continue to rank above state and national standards.



Angelo State University, with an enrollment of approximately 6,300, attracts students from every region of Texas, 45 additional states and 27 foreign countries. Located on a beautiful 268-acre, \$128-million campus, ASU offers 44 undergraduate programs in 31 disciplines and 19 graduate programs in 16 disciplines. Baccalaureate degrees offered include Arts, Business

Administration, Music, Science and Nursing. Masters degrees are offered in Arts, Arts in Teaching, Business Administration, Education, Public Administration and Science. The university also offers continuing education programs.

Howard County Junior College offers courses for approximately 1,000 students at its San Angelo campus. Offering business and technology courses are American Commercial College and San Angelo Vo-Tech.

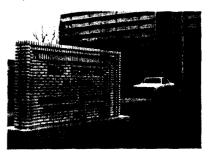


Housing in San Angelo ranges from apartments to town homes, from modest frame homes on small lots to expansive homes on large lots and multi-acreage property. Construction costs for new housing averages \$48 per square foot, much less than the national average. The same is true for the costs of existing housing.



San Angelo, with three acute-care hospitals, and physicians practicing in more than 200 specialties, is widely recognized as a regional medical center. Available to area residents are the latest in diagnostic facilities as well as a cancer treatment center and openheart surgery. The medical community also offers various rehabilitation and fitness centers to assist recovering patients. Mental health, drug rehabilitation and geriatric facilities are also available. Minor emergency and family medicine is available at walk-in clinics throughout the city.

San Angelo is a community of variety. Though tied strongly to agriculture and its western heritage, the city is a center of high-tech industries such as communications, medical care, tire testing and specialized manufacturing. The city was selected by the state legislature to be the site of the \$26-million emergency computer backup system for the Texas government's computers with completion scheduled for 1996. The facility will be located on the campus of Angelo State University under a partnership with the State Department of Information Resources.



Because of the climate, lower costof-living, availability of educational opportunities and an outstanding medical community, San Angelo is rapidly gaining a reputation as an excellent retirement city. Retirees desiring to locate near other retirees have a choice of several centers which feature individual homes as well as patio homes and highrise apartments with adjacent dining facilities. One such center in the city provides services of a fully accredited geriatric hospital on its grounds.

While San Angeloans enjoy rodeos and steer roping, as well as high school and college sports, they also throng to the RiverStage for the symphony's annual Fourth of July extravaganza and the Symphony's and ballet's Nutcracker Suite performance in the City Auditorium at Christmas time. San Angelo is also the home of the Hemphill-Wells Sorantin competition for young artists. Residents also can be found at ASU for special visiting guest lecturers, plays and special programs or in the campus planetarium, the nation's fourth largest such facility. The Museum of Fine Arts, located on the fort grounds, offers many special exhibits and events during the year.

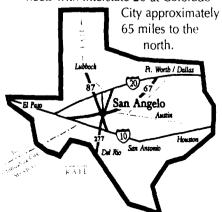
#### Hillinita

San Angelo is located on four major highways which provide links to Interstate 20 approximately 65 miles to the north and Interstate 10 approximately 60 miles to the south. U.S. 87 runs southeast to northwest through the city; it is an important link between northwest Texas, San Angelo, Austin and San Antonio. A large portion of Highway 87 is four lanes and it is under consideration for an extension of Interstate 27 at



Lubbock to connect Interstates 10 and 20.

U.S. Highway 67, running south-west-northeast links San Angelo directly to the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex, as well as providing a major highway to Interstate 10 and El Paso. U.S. Highway 277 connects San Angelo with Abilene 90 miles to the north and Mexico 170 miles to the south. A fourth highway, 208, connects with Interstate 20 at Colorado



Loop 306, which crisscrosses these arteries near downtown and in the southern part of the city, is a four-lane roadway. Except for one east/west area still under construction, the loop has controlled access and no traffic lights.

#### **Traffic:**

Traffic counts are high on these roads, indicating both local and commuting traffic. The following counts reflect an average 24-hour period.

Highway 87 -	11,390
Hwy 87 within city -	36,000
Bryant & Abe Streets	
Highway 67 -	3,850
Highway 67 (within city) -	18,220
Highway 277 Northbound -	6,480
Highway 277 Southbound -	3,970
Highway 208 Northbound -	8,000
Houston Harte/Downtown -	19,980
Loop 306 at Knickerbocker -	18,530
Source: Texas Department of Transportat	ion 1994.

San Angelo is served by two motor bus lines with direct schedules to all major cities in Texas and the nation. These include Kerrville Bus Lines and Sunset Stages. Concho Coaches provides daily van service to and from the Midland/Odessa area.

A business location in San Angelo means rail access to U.S. destinations and an important link to Mexico. The South Orient Railroad has one of only seven rail crossings into Mexico through Texas. The crossing at Presidio, Texas/Ojinaga, Mexico provides an uncongested and quick access to the interior of Mexico and the new deep water port of Topolobampo on the Pacific Ocean.

The main yard of the South Orient Railroad is in San Angelo, as well as an intermodal dock. At Presidio, there is an intermodal crane and a Customs office. The South Orient Railroad has the following interchanges:

Presidio, Texas - FNM (Mexico)
Alpine, Texas - Southern Pacific
Railroad
Coleman, Texas (San Angelo Junction)
- Santa Fe
Brownwood, Texas - Santa Fe
Fort Worth, Texas - with connections
to Fort Worth Western, Santa Fe,
Union Pacific, Burlington Northern,
Southern Pacific and Kansas City
Southern

# VITELL STRUCT

Ten motor freight companies serve the trucking needs of San Angelo, providing one-day and overnight service within a 500-mile radius. Direct service is offered to major cities, plus interconnected through trailer service\* to all principal market centers.

\*Trailer moves from one point to another without freight being transferred to another trailer.

\*Includes both Truckload and Less than Truckload

Motor Freight companies include: ABF Freight System, Inc.
Arkansas Freightways, Inc.
Central Freight Lines, Inc.
CF Motor Freight
Merchants Fast Motor Lines, Inc.
O & A TexPack Express
Roadway Express, Inc.
TNT Bestway, Inc.
Yellow Freight System, Inc.
Roadway Package System

**Transit times:** In phone interviews with four major carriers in late-1994, the following delivery times were provided for selected cities:

ionowing derivery times were provided for selected cities.				
City	Transit Time*	Gateway City		
Chicago	3-5 Days	Dallas		
New York	5-6 Days	Dallas		
Atlanta	3-4 Days	Dallas & Houston		
Los Angeles	2-5 Days	El Paso & Phoenix		
Seattle	5 Days	Dallas & Phoenix		
Dallas	1 Day	Direct		
Houston	1 Day	Direct		
Chihuahua, Mexico	3-7 Days	El Paso or Presidio		
Mexico City	4-7 Days	Laredo		



#### AIR SERVICE

San Angelo's Mathis Field (alt. - 1,902) utilizes three runways which provide 98% wind coverage. Runway 18-36 is 7,000 feet in length, while runway 03-21 is 5,939 feet long and has a complete ILS system with all-weather take-off and landing capability. Also available is a 4,100-foot crosswind general aviation runway.

Mathis Field has all of the generally available instrument approach aids including VOR, VORTAC, ILS, ILS-BC, RNAV, ILS-DME and DME-CIRCLING approaches. ASR-9-terminal radar was installed in 1993. An FAA control tower governs local area approaches.

# **COMMERCIAL SERVICE**

San Angelo is served by American and Delta Airlines commuters—American Eagle and Atlantic Southeast Airlines. Eleven flights a day interconnect at Dallas-Fort Worth. During 1993, equipment upgrades doubled the seating capacity of most aircraft.

With the frequent number of flights to Dallas-Fort Worth, a San Angelo passenger can get to most U.S. destinations within 4 hours.

#### SUPPORT SERVICES

Both the National Weather Service and FAA Automated Flight Service Station are located at Mathis Field and provide 24-hour service. Two FBOs are located at the field. Southwest Air Center and Ranger Aviation Enterprises provide truck service with 100LL, Jet A and JP4 fuels. Additional services include flight training, aircraft rental, painting and interior services, aircraft maintenance (both recip and turbine), avionics sales and service, helicopter service, aircraft sales and hangars. The U.S. Customs Service and GTE both have

aviation operations located at Mathis Field.

#### SITES & BUILDINGS

Mathis Field has 48 acres of concrete ramp with approximately 20 acres available for tie-down and static ground. A former Mitsubishi aircraft manufacturing facility and 100 acres of industrial park land are available for lease from the City.

# **OVERNIGHT DELIVERY**

Federal Express, Airborne Express, UPS, DHL and the U.S. Postal Service provide overnight delivery of small parcels and letters to cities within the continental U.S.

# POSTAL SERVICE

The United States Postal Service provides mailing services designed to meet the needs of all types of customers in San Angelo and the Concho Valley.

The Postal Service offers full delivery and retail services at two city stations. In addition, five contract stations provide retail services in convenient locations around town. With a staff of 176, the local office processes more than 125,000 pieces of mail for city delivery each day. San Angelo is also the transshipment point for mail bound to and from the 18 Concho Valley offices.

San Angelo provides next-day
Express Mail service to all major markets. Two-day service covers the rest
of the country. First Class mail takes
two days to Dallas, Fort Worth,
Amarillo and El Paso. Service to the
East and West Coasts requires three
days. Mailing Requirements
Specialists are available to provide
personal help in selecting mailing
programs to meet your business needs.

# **TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

GTE not only serves San Angelo with telephone service, but also is one of the city's largest employers. GTE employs over 1,300 people with three national department headquarters in the city.

GTE has a totally digital switching system with fiber optic service available to most of the city locations. GTE has installed complete fiber optic systems in some local businesses and has a fiber optic system for the next generation of information networks. San



Angelo's information infrastructure for both voice and data transmission is well positioned for companies needing the best technology in the 21st Century.

The following costs for residential and business phone service are approximate: Residential Service (Touchtone) -

\$41.00 installation - \$20.00/month One business line (Touchtone) -

\$30.90/month

Business Keyline System (Hunt & Touchtone) - \$38.35/line/month PBX or Trunkline (Hunt & Touchtone) - \$47.45/line/month

Dial Data Link lines -

\$25.00/line installation
- \$5.00/month service charge
\*For business lines there is a

\$31.50 service call and \$20.00/line installation charge.

Source: GTE - Dec. 1994 - 1-800-483-5400

Long distance carriers include AT&T, Sprint, StarTel, Communications ETC, LDDS Metro-Media Communications, Tel-Pro Communications, Value-Line Long Distance, Action Telcom Company and MCI. Cellular phone service is provided by West Central Cellular and Cellular One.

# CITY GOVERNMENT

The City of San Angelo operates under the City Manager/City Council form of government. The Council is comprised of the mayor and six, single-member district councilpersons. This group constitutes the legislative and governing body of the city with all powers and authority granted in the charter. Serving two-year terms, half the council is elected in odd years while the other half and the mayor are elected in even years. The city is incorporated under the constitution and general laws of Texas which provide for municipal home rule.



#### **COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

Tom Green County, covering 1,500 square miles, is governed by a County Judge/County Commissioners form of government with offices in San Angelo, the county seat. The Commissioners Court is comprised of four commissioners, each representing one precinct, and the County Judge representing the entire county. Commissioners and the County Judge are elected for four years. Operating under the state constitution and the general laws of Texas, the Commissioners Court is primarily responsible for road and bridge maintenance, rural law enforcement and operation of the city/county jail.

#### JUBIE SAILES

#### City Police

The city employs 163 police officers, approximately one for every 553 residents. Cooperating with various local organizations, the San Angelo Police Department has established various programs to combat crime and encourage drug and gang awareness among the city's youth. Crime Stoppers, a program which provides cash awards for anonymous tips, was started by the Police Department and the Chamber of Commerce and has proven extremely successful. This program operates with financial support from individuals and the city's business community. Also established is a Citizens Patrol which trains and operates under the auspices of the Police Department.

#### Sheriff's Department

With the primary responsibility of providing law enforcement outside the city limits, the Tom Green County Sheriff's Department employs approximately 100 officers and jailers. The Sheriff's Department also operates the county jail, which houses city and county prisoners under a joint agreement between the two entities. In addition, the department serves the court system with the escort and transportation of prisoners to and from hearings and trials.

#### Department of Public Safety

San Angelo also is headquarters for a district office of the Texas Department of Public Safety, the state police. **Fire Department** 

The Fire Department, consisting of 134 personnel, is operated as a city department. The department is charged with preparing and protecting the public from hazards of fire, natural or man-made disasters and all life-threatening emergencies.

Six sub-stations and the central station house seven engine companies, three paramedic ambulances and a rescue squad. Ninety percent of personnel are firstline responders while 10 percent are assigned to support services, fire administration, communications and safety/infection control, fire and EMS training. Each

member of the department averaged more than 211 hours of classroom and physical training during 1994.

Under agreement with the county, the fire department will make fire calls outside the city limits; however, the rural area is well protected by various volunteer fire departments within the county.

Operating as a city department, the Parks Department is responsible for development and upkeep of more than 300 acres of public, city parks and associated facilities. The Recreation Department sponsors and oversees various sports programs, recreation, exercise, arts and crafts programs for residents from first graders to seniors. The Recreation Department operates four Rec centers, a municipal swimming pool and the RiverStage.



#### BUILDING & ACOUSE

The primary responsibility for determination of and maintenance of building codes is held by the Permits and Inspection Department. The planning and zoning for land use is accomplished by the Planning Department through the Planning Commission. This is a Commission appointed by the City Council to review applications and hold hearings on zoning changes. Applications for new construction and modification of existing buildings and structures are reviewed and approved by the Permit and Inspection Department in accordance with the Southern Standard Building Code and current city zoning ordinances. Final approval or disapproval of zoning and land use development rests with the City Council.

# **TAXES**

#### **State Taxes**

There are occasions when close to last is favorable. In 1990, Texas ranked 48th in per capita state taxes. Texans were paying \$870 per person, while the national average was \$1,211. Texas is well known for the taxes we don't pay no personal income tax, no state property tax and no corporate income tax. In 1995, the sales and use tax on equipment used in manufacturing processes is eliminated.

Texas state government is funded primarily through a 6.25 percent sales tax on tangible personal property and some services. Cities, counties and some transit authorities may add additional sales taxes for their own funding needs. However, the maximum state and local rate is 8.5 percent.

Texas does impose a franchise tax on all corporations that do business in the state. Apportionment of Texas sales to total sales is allowed, and a company pays the greater of:

- \*A tax on net capital assets of .25 percent (or \$2.50 for each \$1,000 of net taxable capital)
- \*A tax of 4.5 percent on net earned surplus

Unemployment insurance in 1995 for new employers was 2.7 percent of the first \$9,000 of each new employee's wages. An experience rating based upon six to eight quarters determines a revised rate. In 1995, the range was .32 percent to 6.57 percent. The average for experience-rated companies was 1.18 percent. The overall average is 1.35 percent.

Workers compensation is not required in Texas. Those that choose to provide coverage have the choice of private carriers or a state fund.

#### **Local Taxes**

The City of San Angelo, Tom Green County, and the Independent School District are funded with taxes collected through assessments against real and personal property. Property is assessed at 100 percent of value, and the following ratios are used to determine the actual amount paid in taxes:

City of San Angelo -

\$.8283/\$100 of value Tom Green County -

\$.31710/\$100 of value School District -

\$1.33215/\$100 of value TOTAL - \$2.47755 for each \$100 of assessed value

The taxes collected through the above assessments are maximums. Tax abatements may be available to some employers, and homestead exemptions are available to homeowners - both programs lower the tax bill.

The current sales tax rate in San Angelo is 7.75 percent. The City of San Angelo has a 1% sales tax and Tom Green County levies a 1/2% sales tax, in addition to the State's 6.25%.

#### LOCATION INCENTIVES

The City, County and Chamber of Commerce work closely together to attract new primary employers to this area. In our incentive programs, primary employers are defined as manufacturers, distributors, data processing, telecommunication services, renovation of commercial property in special districts and corporate home office locations.

#### Real and Personal Property Tax Abatement

If a company falls into any of the above categories and invests a minimum of \$250,000 in additional value and creates at least five new jobs, they are eligible to apply for tax abatements for building and equipment. The tax is abated on a sliding scale up to 75 percent of City and County taxes for up to five years beyond the construction period.

# **Freeport Exemption**

In an effort to encourage manufacturing and distribution, the City, County and School District provide another incentive - the Freeport Exemption.

This personal property tax exemption is applied to inventory and work-in-progress that is destined for out-of-state shipment within 175 days of manufacturing or initial inventory placement.

#### **Industrial Districts**

A company is allowed to locate outside of the city limits for a period of time and still obtain city services. The company pays an increasing "in lieu of taxes" fee until such time as they are annexed, and will then pay the full tax appraisal. Personal property and inventory are exempt from taxation for the period of time the company remains outside the city limits.

#### West Texas Utilities Incentive Rate

West Texas Utilities is authorized to provide an electrical rate incentive for manufacturers and R & D companies that will add jobs and increase their electrical demand by at least 100KW. The utility company can reduce the demand rate up to 40 percent for the first year of operation, depending upon the number of jobs created. It is a four-year program of rate reductions.

#### Other Incentives

Other Incentives available include guaranteed loan programs from the City of San Angelo and San Angelo Industries, a private development corporation. The Small Business Development Center of Angelo State University works with small companies to prepare business plans and provides assistance in preparing loan requests to the Small Business Administration and locally-based loan guarantee programs mentioned above. San Angelo's eight progressive banks have an organization called the Association of Banks, where they can jointly finance a project that an individual bank may be reluctant to finance alone.

The San Angelo Chamber of Commerce has a full-time economic development staff to work closely with local expansion projects or out-of-town investors. Services include: assistance with personnel recruitment, site selection, maintenance of an available building inventory list, coordination of training programs, financing referral and any other services that make your investment in San Angelo happen as smoothly and as quickly as possible.